

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 COPENH 01231 211802Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-12 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 NEA-10
CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00
SIL-01 NSC-05 SS-15 SP-02 HA-05 OIC-02 L-03 /128 W
-----108653 212142Z /70

R 211616Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6009
INFO AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS COPENHAGEN 1231

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: ILO ELAB PORG DA
SUBJ: US RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ILO

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REF: STATE 038223

1. LABOR ATTACHE DISCUSSED THE OVERALL US RELATIONSHIP WITH THE
ILO WITH SENIOR, PLICY-LEVEL OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR ILO AFFAIRS
IN BOTH THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTRY OF
LABOR.

2. BOTH OFFICIALS COMMENTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO CHANGE IN US THINKING ON THE ISSUES SINCE OUR WITHDRAWAL. TO THE CONCERN EXPRESSED BY LABATT THAT THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE GOVERNING BODY WOULD BE WEAKENED BY THE ADOPTION OF THE IMEC PROPOSAL ON STRUCTURE, THE MINISTRY OF LABOR OFFICIAL RESPONDED WITH THE COMMENT THAT A PROPOSAL ALONG THE LINES MADE BY IMEC WAS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. FURTHER, THE PROPOSAL DID NOT REFLECT CONCERN FOR THE REPRESENTATION PROBLEMS OF ONE REGION AT THE EXPENSE OF THE INTEGRITY OF THE GOVERNING BODY. HE ALSO HINTED THAT BECAUSE THE US, AS A NON-MEMBER, HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE PAST TWO WEEKS, THE US MIGHT NOT BE UP-TO-DATE ON THE POSITIVE ASPECTS OF THE IMEC MOVE. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE OFFICIAL NOTED THAT THE PROPOSAL, TO THE SURPRISE OF THE IMEC COUNTRIES, HAD RECEIVED A GOOD RECEPTION FROM THE G-77. MOREOVER, THE EASTERN BLOC COUNTRIES WERE BEING ISOLATED.

3. ORIGINALLY, THERE WERE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTRY OF LABOR ON HOW CHANGE IN THE ILO SHOULD BE PURSUED. NOW, WE WERE TOLD, BOTH MINISTRIES FULLY SUPPORT THE IMEC POSITION AND HOPE THAT THE US WILL BE ABLE TO RESERVE JUDGMENT ON WHAT HAPPENS TO THE ILO UNTIL ALL THE ELEMENTS ARE IN PLACE. THEY ASSERT THAT THEY DO NOT INTEND TO SACRIFICE THE PRINCIPLES OF THE ILO WHICH BOTH WE AND THEY SUPPORT AND HOPE THAT THE US WILL RECOGNIZE THIS.

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